



UCLA Programs in Medical Classics

2006 - 2007

UCLA Programs in Medical Classics is a series of free presentations designed to enhance an appreciation of the links among famous medical writings, clinical practice, basic research, and humanistic scholarship. Several times a year these meetings bring together a convivial group of individuals of scholarly tastes—both from the community and from UCLA faculty, students, and staff—for a lecture and an opportunity to discuss and examine texts and topics that embody the history of medicine, as well as the relations of medicine to broader cultural settings.

<http://www.library.ucla.edu/biomed/his/medicalclassics.html>

Jacqueline Wolf, Ph.D.

Professor of Social Medicine, Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine

Thursday, 15 February 2007, 6:00 p.m.
UCLA Faculty Center

“Powder and Lipstick Were On Just So”: The Ideal Woman, Perceptions of Labor Pain, and the Use of Obstetric Anesthesia

Introduction by Mary Terrall, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Medicine, UCLA



Friday, 16 February 2007, 1:00 p.m.
OB/GYN Grand Rounds
24-132 Center for the Health Sciences

From Ether to Epidural: Obstetric Anesthesia in Social Context



In the 1970s the lay press celebrated natural childbirth as invigorating and transforming. Today attitudes are starkly different: newspapers and magazines ridicule natural childbirth as “an extreme sport” and urge women to opt for an epidural. How do medical and social approaches to labor change so radically in one generation? In these talks, Professor Wolf will examine the history of medical and social views of labor pain and corresponding changes in the use of obstetric anesthesia and link those changes to broad contemporary social concerns and the cultural perception of women.

About the Thursday evening (February 15) lecture:

The lecture is free. An optional dinner with the speakers, at \$22.00 per person, will take place in the Faculty Center about 7:30 pm. **An advance reservation is required for dinner** (but not for the lecture); please call the History & Special Collections Division of the Louise Darling Biomedical Library at **(310) 825-6940** before the end of the day on Monday, February 12, to make a dinner reservation; later reservations cannot be guaranteed. An abridged form of a classic text related to the evening’s lecture will be distributed by snailmail to those persons who request it in advance. To request this *related* text (please note: *the lecture itself is not recorded or transcribed*) or more information, please send Teresa Johnson <tgj@library.ucla.edu> an e-mail, including your name and address, with the words “**Medical Classics Program: February 2007 Reading**” in the subject line; or call the History & Special Collections Division at (310) 825-6940.